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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

DINH, TAN X

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2653

DATE MAILED: 09/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/733,583

Applicant(s)

BENSON, WILLIAM E.

Examiner

TAN X. DINH

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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1) The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The following title is suggested:

HEADERLESS SPLIT SECTOR FORMAT FOR MAGNETO-OPTICAL DISK.

2) Claims 4,6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The phrase " the data wedge comprises a non-integral number of headerless data sectors " (claim 4) is unclear and cannot be understood. The specification did not show or teaching this feature. The same rejection is repeated for the phrase " the headerless data sectors have variable length " (claim 6) and " the data wedge comprises an integral number of headerless data sectors " (claim 7).

2) The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

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3) (e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

4) Claims 1,2,4-7, as understood by the meaning of 112, 2nd above, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by BURROUGHS (6,504,805).

BURROUGHS discloses a magneto-optical disk (column 5, lines 43-49) as claimed in claim 1, comprising:

one or more data track (Fig.3. 1 TRACK) on surface, each data track being divided into one or more data wedges (Fig.3, 1 TRACK has WEDGE 0, WEDGE 1, WEDGE 2, ..., WEDGE 199), each wedge further comprising:

at least one headerless data sector (Fig.3, USER DATA AREA 300 is not accompanied by identification field, i.e, headless);

a wedge header information field (Fig.3, wedge header area 212).

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The features of claims 4,6 and 7 are assumed as being inherent in BURROUGHS since these features were not exist in the specification.

As to claim 2, BURROUGHS shows data tracks comprises a spiral pattern in column 3, lines 13-32.

As to claim 5, BURROUGHS shows the headerless data sectors are of fixed length (figure 2, WEDGE 0, WEDGE 1, WEDGE 2, ... WEDGE 199. In this case, the data sectors between the wedge are fixed length).

5) The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6) Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over BURROUGHS (6,504,805) further in view of MORIYA et al (5,508,995).

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BURROUGHS discloses all the subject matter claimed as in claim 3, except that the data track is single spiral pattern rather than double. MORIYA et al from the same field of endeavor teaches a magneto-optical disk having spiral track pattern where information can be recorded on both groove and land track for high density recording scheme (column 15, lines 3-10 and column 2, lines 40-49). Since the method as taught by MORIYA et al is old and well known in the magneto-optical art, it would have been obvious to use the teaching of double spiral pattern data track in BURROUGHS's magneto-optical disk as claimed.

7) Claims 8-20 are allowed.

8) The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Applicant is reminded that in amending in response to a rejection of claims, the patentable novelty must be clearly shown in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited and the objection made. Applicant must also show how the amendments avoid such references and objections. See 37 CFR §1.111(c).

HETZLER et al (5,768,044 and 5,210,660), KUEN et al (5,754,351), NAITO et al (5,034,934) and SAITO et al (4,712,203) discloses a magneto-optical

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disk having a plurality of data tracks divided into a plural wedges including wedge header information field and data recording field.

9) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to TAN DINH whose telephone number is (703)308-4859. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00AM to 5:30PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-4750.



TAN DINH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

September 2, 2003